restricted to work of purely casual|seasonal|intermittent| part-time nature for which no posts can be created.

Instructions have also been issued for regularisation of the services of casual workers against Group 'D' posts in Ministries|Departments, etc. subject to their fulfilling the eligibility conditions, provided suitable vacancies exist. Consequently, regularisation of the services of such persons in Group 'D' posts cannot be effected within any prescribed time frame.

(c) The various Ministries|Departments are themselves competent to regularise the services of their casual workers in Group 'D' posts in terms of the general instructions on the subjects. The information regarding regularisation of services of casual workers is not monitored centrally. This Department is, therefore, not in a position to make any comments in regard for Part (c) of the question.

Appointment of another commission to settle Punjab-Haryana issues

444. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint another Commission as suggested by the Mathew Commission to settle Punjab-Haryana issues; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) and (b) Discussions have been held with the Chief Ministers of Punjab and Haryana with a view to deciding the course of action.

Revision of pay-scales of Defence Scientists

445. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revise the pay scales of and to give more incentives to the scientists working in the defence establishments in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) These matters are under consideration of the Fourth Central Pay Commission. The Government will take a view after their report is received.

(d) Does not arise.

Poverty eradication programme

446. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the existing machinery in his Ministry to monitor the poverty eradication programme in the country;

(b) whether the exsting machinery is adequate for the purpose;

(c) what is the present system of monitoring the programmes; and

(d) whether Government are aware that achievements under point 7(A) of the 20-Point Programme are tardy during the current financial year and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHARY): (a) One division viz. 20-Point Programme Monitoring Division exists in this Ministry to monitor the 20-Point Programme as a whole including the poverty eradication programme.

(b) In addition to the machinery in this Ministry, the individual items of the Programme are being monitored by the concerned Ministry/Department.

(c) The Programme is being monitored regularly on monthly and quarterly basis. For the Monthly Progress Report, information is received in this Ministry directly from the States/UTs. For the Quarterly

Progress Report, information is received by the concerned Central Ministries from the States/UTs. The Ministries|Departments analyse the reports so received and prepare a consolidated report on the points|items concerning them which is vetted by the concerned subject Advisers in the Planning Commission. An overall report on the Quarterly Progress of the 20-Point Programme all over the country is then consolidated and issued by the Ministry of Programme Implementation. Besides, in the States/UTs, committees have been set-up at the Headquarters and at the district block/taluka levels also. The committees at the district, block|taluka levels *inter-alia* include people representatives including representatives of minorities.

(d) The achievement under Point No. 7(A) relating to Welfare of Scheduled Castes during April, 85 to January, 1986 was 83 per cent of the target for the period. According to the Ministry of Welfare which is in-charge of this Programme, the main reasons for slow progress are inadequacy of funds available under Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes, delay in fixation of physical targets, second dose of assistance to old I.R.D. beneficiaries and higher targets in case of a few States.

Launching of INSAT-IC satellite by India

447. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any apprehension of delay in launching INSAT-IC satellite later in September following the 'Challenger' explosion on the 28th January, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the alternative plans which Government are contemplating to avoid any delay in our space research programme;

(c) whether the matter has been taken up with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of United States of America; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) At present, as advised by NASA, INSAT-IC work is proceeding on the basis that the present flight assignment for INSAT-IC, namely the STS Flight 61-I with a planned nominal launch date of 27 September 1986, will be maintained until NASA notifies of any change which may be required. While the consequences of the STS Flight 51-L tragedy as they relate to the resumption of STS launches and the effect to the specific launch assignments on STS manifest are yet to be fully assessed, considering the 24 successful Space Shuttle launches, it is hard to believe that the Space Shuttle has any generic problems and there is a reasonable expectation that the NASA Space Shuttle flights will be resumed in the second half of 1986 and that INSAT-IC launch schedule will not be undly affected.

(b) The effect of US-NASA STS flight resumption delays, if any, will be confined to INSAT-1C and INSAT-1D launches. At the present moment, the Government does not consider it necessary to make alternate managements for the launching of INSAT-1C and INSAT-1D satellites.

(c) and (d) NASA is working intensively to minimise the impacts of the January 28 loss of Challenger on STS customers and has assured that it would do its best to launch INSAT-1C and INSAT-1D spacecrafts under conditions which are mutually agreeable to NASA and to the Department of Space (DOS). NASA fully appreciates the need for a timely launch of the INSAT-1C spacecraft to provide an on-orbit back-up to the lone INSAT-IB in operation.